

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 219500

64

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 ACDA-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /072 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:CHG

APPROVED BY EA - AMB. HUMMEL

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O 040002Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 219500

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT: HCIR RESOLUTION

1. AMBASSADOR HAHM CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HUMMEL SEPTEMBER 3 TO REGISTER ROKG'S DISSATISFACTION WITH HIRC RESOLUTION ON DMZ INCIDENT AND MYONGDONG SENTENCES. HE SAID THAT IF RESOLUTION PASSED ROKG WOULD VIEW IT AS "A MOST UNFRIENDLY ACT" ON THE PART OF CONGRESS. HE SAID THAT COMING ON THE HEELS OF THE DMZ INCIDENT AND JUST BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE UNGA THE RESOLUTION WOULD BE WIDELY INTERPRETED AS A SIGN OF A SERIOUS RIFT IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE US AND THE ROK. HAHM SAID THAT WHILE ROKG UNDERSTOOD THE CONCEPT OF THE SEPARATION OF POWERS IN THE U.S., THE RESOLUTION WOULD BE SEEN BY BOTH SOUTH AND NORTH KOREANS AS CONVEYING THE VIEW OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. HAHM ASKED WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT WOULD UNDERTAKE ANY STEPS TO HELP DEFEAT THE MEASURE IN THE HOUSE.

2. MR. HUMMEL SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S ABILITY TO
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PAGE 02 STATE 219500

INFLUENCE SUCH RESOLUTIONS WAS LIMITED. MOREOVER, THE ISSUE

OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF THE MYONGDONG
TRIAL ARE OF GREAT CONCERN TO MANY AMERICANS. THE REAL

PROBLEM WAS NOT THE RESOLUTION BUT THE SENTENCES
WHICH GAVE RISE TO THE RESOLUTION.

3. RESOLUTION ISSUE DID NOT ARISE AT SEPTEMBER 2 OR 3
DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFINGS. FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE
PREPARED FOR SEPTEMBER 3 BRIEFING:

QUOTE:

QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE CONGRESSIONAL
RESOLUTION ON KOREA INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE?

ANSWER: OBVIOUSLY, THIS RESOLUTION WAS A CONGRESSIONAL
INITIATIVE AND THIS IS A MATTER FOR THE CONGRESS TO
DECIDE. I WOULD SIMPLY POINT OUT THAT THERE ARE TWO
DIFFERENT ISSUES INVOLVED HERE.

END QUOTE.

ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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